

IMPROVED HANDLING OF SPEECH RECOGNITION  
IN A DECLARATIVE MARKUP LANGUAGE

**ABSTRACT**

**[0078]** Declarative markup languages for speech applications such as VoiceXML are becoming more prevalent programming modalities for describing speech applications. Present declarative markup languages for speech applications model the running speech application as a state machine with the program specifying the transitions amongst the states. These languages can be extended to support a marker-semantic to more easily solve several problems that are otherwise not easily solved. In one embodiment, a partially overlapping target window is implemented using a mark semantic. Other uses include measurement of user listening time, detection and avoidance of errors, and better resumption of playback after a false barge in.